IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takaaki HASHIMOTO et al. : Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2004-1399A

Filed September 10, 2004 :

METHOD FOR TREATING WASTE WATER [Corresponding to PCT/JP03/02824 Filed March 11, 2003]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: